

## **PUBLIC ART COMMISSION MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Public Art Commission took place on Wednesday, February 16, 2011, at 5:30 P.M. at the Cambridge Arts Council.

### **The following members were present:**

TK McClintock  
Miriam Stewart  
Brent Ryan  
Julie Graham  
Cynthia Smith  
Mags Harries

### **Staff present:**

Jeremy Gaucher, Public Art Administrator  
Lillian Hsu, Director of Public Art

### **1) Open Meeting Laws**

Lillian distributed copies of the MA Open Meeting Laws for members review. Website:  
<http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=cagosubtopic&L=3&L0=Home&L1=Government&L2=The+Open+Meeting+Law&sid=Cago>

### **2) Matthew Mazzotta / Western Ave project presentation**

Matthew's proposal is titled "Breaking Bread", which will be a Baroque-style dining room table with chandeliers and seating for 14 people. It will be sited in the expanded Cronin Park on a raised area on the Western Avenue side of the park, as to leave in place the existing trees. Has been working closely with Cynthia Smith, the landscape designer for the project to site the piece and provide stair and ramp access to the table area.

The PAC was shown preliminary design sketches of the table/chair/chandelier design, as well as draft sketches of the project as sited in the park design.

Dimensions, at this stage are preliminary, but that the table will be approximately 4'w by 18' long, and when adding the chairs at 3' for each chair, the entire footprint of the area will be 8' by 22'.

Matthew discussed that it's important for the area to be similar to a 'stage', and therefore is positioned on a raised knoll. He is also working with Cynthia to achieve a feeling of being taken out of the urban to a more 'estate' feeling in the park. As an example he pointed to the ramp pathway not being curbed, but with the edge dissipating straight to grass.

PAC asked if he had discussed materials with the CAC Conservator, Rika. He answered that he has had initial discussions regarding materials and that he would like to have steel frames for the furniture, but would like wooden seats and tabletop to increase comfort. He has not worked out the exact design or type of light to be used for

the chandeliers. Matthew and Cynthia will also work with the design team to minimize the street light spill that could take away from the effect of the chandeliers in what Matthews will create the atmosphere for the park. PAC recommends visiting lighting reps and considering LED's.

TK wondered whether Matthew had considered breaking the table into smaller tables. Matthew responded that it was designed specifically to encourage gatherings and potential new interactions among members of the public.

The PAC asked if there were alternatives to the chandelier poles going up through the center of the table because it might impair site of others at the table. Ideas about outer framework and outriggers were suggested. Matthew would like as little structure as possible, as to keep the focus on the main three elements as the 'object'. The PAC also raised concerns about the height of the chandelier and possible vandalism. Matthew will keep these concerns in mind when designing the lights. Also to consider pigeon spikes on the lights. The PAC also wanted Matthew to keep in mind when designing that all the elements should have a cohesive design, as to relate to each other.

Matthew will be working toward creating final design documentation for the end of May.

### **3) Project Updates:**

Laura Baring-Gould/Fresh Pond: Laura has concept drawings of boulder with bathometric bronze basin, also concept for a bench with a profile of the watershed. She will be presenting these draft ideas to the Fresh Pond Advisory Committee on Feb 28. She will be presenting her ideas the PAC at the March 23 PAC meeting.

**5) Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.